A look at the Covenant

Peter the Rock

By WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
Peter: The Rock of the Covenant
Lesson for November 9, 1980
Scripture References: Acts 2:1 - 3:26
Focal Passages: Acts 2:14-17; 3:18-26

Introduction

We continue our study of the covenant of God by taking a look this week at the role Peter played in the unfolding drama of God's plan.

Peter is an interesting character. I like him. We may find ourselves identifying with Peter and some of his actions. He was an impulsive sort of fellow, sometimes leaping before he looked, which, you'll have to admit is better than all the time looking and never leaping!

Whatever shortcomings Peter had, he always seemed to know which side his bread was buttered, that is, he knew the source to turn to when he was in trouble (see Matt. 14: 22-23). God Keeps His Promises [acts 2:1-7]

The day of Pentecost was a day of "divine disturbance." It was a day of excitement and religious fervor as the disciples and followers of Christ expressed their ecstatic faith. Some accused them, however, of having "nipped" at the bottle. But Peter comes to their defense saying, "These people are not drunk. It is only nine o'clock in the morning!" (author's paraphrase). The crowd's reaction is fairly typical. Whenever we are confronted by something we do not understand, something quite uncommon to our normal experience, there is a tendency within us to discredit it. The event of Pentecost have brought about conflicting opinions and interpretations, but we can safely say that Pentecost was a unifying experience which transcended barriers of language and nationality.

During these days of political upheaval and divisions within society, we need a "unifying experience" to draw us together. We see divisions among nations, groups, religious denominations, and families. And the things that divide us also threaten to destroy us. Pentecost was a unifying event which pulled people together and gave them power to resist the destructive forces. We, too, need our "Pentecost" to unify us and draw us together into a spirit of unity. Perhaps we need to follow the example of the early Christians. "They were all with one accord in one place."

Peter refers back to Joel to substantiate the events of Pentecost. Pentecost was a radical departure from the ways God manifested himself in earlier times. But at Pentecost, God "poured" himself out upon all flesh, that is, upon persons of both sexes and all ages. God kept his promise and blessed those gathered at Pentecost with his powerful spirit.

God's Promises in Christ [Acts 3:12-24]

Peter often became a spokesman for God. He seized upon every opportunity to proclaim the good news of Christ. On one occasion he and John had gone to the Temple and were confronted by a crippled beggar. They took the opportunity to offer the man more than mere healing; they offered him a new way of life. As the crowd gathered to witness the healing of the beggar, Peter presented Jesus as the Great Physician.

These who gathered to see the miracle of healing were the same ones who had sent Jesus to his death. So, Peter tells them that despite their past they may experience forgiveness through repentance. Included in his message was a word about the second coming of Christ. In presenting Christ to his listeners, Peter backed up his claims of Christ by referring to the long trail of great prophets.

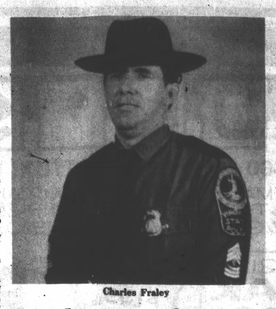
Heirs of the Covenant [Acts 3:25-26]

Peter emphasized that his hearers were "children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made." He reminded them of their rich heritage and encouraged them to repentance and faith in Christ on the basis of their heritage.

The past is a powerful factor in life. Many individuals look to the past as a source of reminder or as a source of inspiration. Our past can be a combination of shadows and light. Memory plays an important role in the life of an individual, an institution, or a group of people. We are free to build on our heritage or to ignore it, but you can't ignore it for very long, for we are in some sense shaped by our past. For some the past is a crutch or an excuse to keep from going ahead into the future. For others the past haunts them as a ghost.

The Old Testament is the foundation upon which the New was introduced. God's eternal plan is woven through its pages and moves into a new era of salvation in Christ. Peter reminded his hearers that they were heirs of the covenant, and recipients also of God's Son, who had come to bless them, to turn them from darkness to light.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Ill. (WLYP)



Charles Fraley

Fraley graduates

First Sgt. Charles L. Fraley Jr., a member of the Virginia State Police, Appomattox, has been graduated from the Southern Police Institute at the University of Louisville.

In all, 53 law enforcement officers from throughout the United States graduated from the class, bringing the total number who have successfully completed the course to 2, 659.

The course includes 390 hours of instruction in such subjects as criminal justice communications, police administration, police personnel management, constitutional aspects of police management and criminal justice behavioral dynamics. Graduates receive college credit upon completion of the course.

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Memory's call

Looking Beyond

By REV. D. W. MENSER
Hollywood & Central Baptist Churches

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord." Ps. 121:1,2.

The writer of the hundred and twenty-first Psalm was in exile far from home. Though he was living in Babylon, the most gorgeous city of antiquity, the hills of home were calling to him. Those hills were deep dyed with memory, and it wasn't only the memory of home, but the memory of God and all that made His people great. And so, from exile, he wrote: "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help." And then as he thought of those hills, he looked beyond them, and remembered that his help came from God.

The God who made the hills is greater than the hills He made. The author of Isaiah says: "O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain." From that high point the messenger could see how the battle went, and bring tidings to those who awaited them. A traveler once made arrangements with a guide to take him to the top of a high mountain to see the sunrise. They had not climbed long when there arose a terrible thunderstorm. "It's no use to go on," the gentleman said. "We cannot see the sunrise in the midst of this fearful storm." "Oh, sir," said the guide, "we will soon get above the storm." They kept climbing, and soon they could see the lightnings playing about the mountains and beneath it was very dark, but when they passed up above the cloud all was light.

We must look beyond even the hills of strength. We must remember that our help comes from God, who is above the hills. If we climb high enough and get close to Him, we shall be able to bring tidings of peace.

I ask of you to pause in prayer, as you read this article, that we look beyond the hills for God's help. We need to pray more for each other than we do, that God will give us the strength to do His will in each of our lives. Pray for me, as I pray for you each day, that God will lead us to victory beyond the mountains.

Thanks expressed

Editor:

The Appomattox County VICA Club would like to express its sincere thanks to all who came out and made our "big shop" a great part of the Appomattox Railroad Festival this year.

Many thanks to the parents who supplied us with the cooking equipment.

The club would like to thank most of all, the fine people who supplied us with the meats, bread and the cheeses which the subs were made with.

Also the apples with which we made our apple cider.

Sincerely,
James Zimmerman

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Writer cites blood donors

Editor:

Appomattox County went over quota during the Bloodmobile visit on October 27. Again, thanks to our donors and to our faithful volunteer help.

Our four first time donors were: Shirley Kress, Rita Goin, Cheryl Dawson, and Richard Bradley.

Nine donors received pins as follows: Eleanor T. Stratton, 4 gallon, Alice C. Martin and Michael H. Terrence 3 gallon pins. One gallon pins went to: Agnes B. Erwin, Jarvis Oxner, Marie A. Kellam, Kathryn Poole, Charlene Lawson and Gregg Martin.

The FFA of Appomattox County High School were our able unloaders and loaders for this visit. The typists who gave 3 hours each of their time were: Mary Lou Harrison, Julie Coffman, Betty Gallimore and Patsy Pierce. Taking temperatures for this visit were Marietta Irby and Penny Mongold. RN's who gave 3 hours each of their time were: Sandra White, Virginia Fratrick, Frances Dyess, Barbara Bennett, Gladys Moon, Rhonda Stephenson, Mary Ellen Marshall, Elaine Hampton, and Anne J. Harris. Rebecca Fox LPN and Brenda Franklin, MT also worked 3 hours each.

Elizabeth Jamerson, Charlotte Jennings, Frances Hopkinson and Doris Click were labelers. Our donor assistants: Jessee Martin, Helen Anderson, Florence Ranson, Shirley Godsey, Minerva Torrence and Margaret Megginson. Pins and donors: Mrs. Gene Richardson and Harriette Cunningham.

Our canteen was hosted by Mount Comfort United Methodist Church and as usual ice furnished by Travelers Inn Motel, drinks by Pepsi Cola Bottling Co., bread and juice given by Kings Supermarket.

Shelia Webb recruited workers for the nursery. Telephone committee: Cindy Thomas, Pearl Mitchell, Ruby Roach, Karen Johnson, Mary Moore, Helen Anderson, Alene Drinkard, Marietta Irby and Sandra Clapp.

Please take note all: Next bloodmobile visit will be Monday December 22. Quota 200. Can we do it? I hope you will write a letter to the news or call the radio station and let us know what you think. We are already planning for that visit which is just 7 weeks away. I hope YOU will plan to come on that day and make the greatest gift of all.

Sincerely,
Alice C. Martin
Chairman, Blood Ser.

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Mrs. William Thomas Gunn, Jr.

Miss Jackson is wed to Mr. Gunn

Noland Memorial United Methodist Church was the setting for the Nov. 1 wedding of Sharon Juanita Jackson of Newport News, Virginia and William Thomas Gunn, Jr. of New York City.

The double ring ceremony was performed by the father of the bride, the Reverend Thomas E. Jackson, and Reverend David Drinkard of Lynchburg.

The bride is the daughter of the Reverend and Mrs. Thomas E. Jackson of Newport News, Virginia. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William T. Gunn, Sr. of New York City.

Mrs. Ronnie Ranson of Appomattox, Va., sister of the bride, was matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Mrs. Michael Jackson of Deltaville, Virginia, Miss Christ Baylor of Newport News, Virginia, Miss Loretta Lettner of Ashland, Virginia. The junior bridesmaid was Miss Rhonda Ranson of Appomattox, Virginia.

The best man was Jerry DeMarco of New York City. Groomsmen were Ronnie Ranson of Appomattox, Virginia, Michael Jackson of Deltaville, Virginia, Charles Cascio of New York City. Junior groomsman was Thomas Gunn of New York City. Ring bearer was David Ranson of Appomattox, Virginia.

A reception was held in the fellowship hall of the church. After a wedding trip to the Poconos, the couple will make their home in New York City.

Miss Appomattox to serve at VIP reception

Miss Nadine Faye Bugg, "Miss Appomattox 1980," has been appointed to serve as usher for the "1980 VIP Champagne Reception and Fashion Extravaganza" on Saturday, November 8, 1980.

This event is sponsored by the Gala Celebrity Benefit and will be held at Hotel Roanoke. Hosts for the occasion are James and Kylene Brandon (formerly Kylene Barker, "Miss America 1978"). Honored guests include: Governor and Mrs. John N. Dalton; top New York fashion designer, Mr. Bill Atkinson; the 1979 "Miss America" USO Troupe; and 1980 "Miss America" State Representatives will be modeling and performing.

Nadine is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Bugg and is sponsored by the Appomattox Woman's Club.

Miss Nadine Faye Bugg

AARP members slate meeting

The Pamplin Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons will hold its regular monthly meeting Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Pamplin United Methodist Church fellowship hall.

Following a half-hour business meeting, the group will see slides of the never-to-be forgotten Nelson County flood. The slide show, expected to last about 45 minutes, is being presented by Mr. Thomas Richardson of Appomattox.

The chapter extended advance thanks to Mr. Richardson earlier this week for his giving the organization the chance to see the slides.

The meeting and slide show is open to the public and there will be refreshments after the showing for all to enjoy.

Hearts group enjoys trip

The Young Hearts Club enjoyed a bus trip on Oct. 28. The club visited the Bi-centennial Center, Monticello, Ash Lawn and wound up the day by going to the Charlottesville Mall with dinner at the Morrison Cafeteria.

It was a most pleasant day and everyone had a grand time.

The next meeting of the club will be on Thursday, Nov. 20 at the Memorial Methodist Church.

Times-Virginian
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Call 352-8215

Recent visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Marshall were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jarrell of Hamlin, W. Va.

* * *

Tim Marshall, a freshman at VPI/SU spent the weekend at home recently.

* * *

Mrs. Charles Fraley spent Thursday and Friday at Louieville, Ky. where she attended the graduation at the University of Louisville.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fraley spent the weekend in Narrows and Blacksburg where they were guests of their children and their families.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce H. Paulette and B. H. III were Sunday luncheon guests in the home of their mother, Mrs. Frances H. Paulette.

* * *

Mrs. Hiram O'Brien of Richmond was week-end guest in the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. William Noble.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Robinson of Baltimore, Md. spent last week in the home of their mother and sister, Mrs. Bessie Robinson and Mrs. Dorothy Patrick.

* * *

Week-end guests in the home of Mrs. Sue G. Johnston of Route 4 were: Mr. and Mrs. Gregory White of Cincinnati, Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. William Johnston and daughter, Laura of McLean, Va. and Mrs. William Hickman of Decatur, Ill. Mrs. Hickman is the former Mary Helen Johnston of Appomattox and Mrs. White is her daughter.

E. W. Paulette, Jr. spent the week-end in Goochland as guest of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Couture and family at Bolling Island.

* * *

Otis Allen entered the Virginia Baptist Hospital on Monday where he will undergo treatment prior to surgery later in the week.

***

Mrs. Dorothy Wilkerson and Mrs. Jessie Carwile have recently returned from visiting friends and relatives in Thompson, Ga.

***

Mr. and Mrs. E.W. McClintic and Mrs. Edward Rogers were weekend visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Rogers of Front Royal.

***

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Price of Henderson, N.C. and their children Steven, Sherry and Lorrie; Mrs. Linda Branhan, Chad and Utersia; Mrs. Peggy Price and J.O. Price; Mrs. Linda Page, all of Pamplin; and Mrs. Viola Mann and Donnie E. Roach of Appomattox were Sunday dinner guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Roach of Appomattox.

***

Snow queen pageant is planned

A Snow Queen Pageant will be held on Sunday, Dec. 7 at 2 p.m. in the Appomattox Elementary School Auditorium. Any girls ages five through 15 may enter. Deadline for entry will be Nov. 14.

Information and applications may be obtained by calling Ruby Roach at 352-8662.

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St. Anne's Episcopal Church - Appomattox, Virginia

Bazaar slated at St. Anne's

Start making out your Christmas list and saving your money for the annual Bazaar at St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Appomattox.

The Bazaar will be held on Saturday, Nov. 29, opening at 9:30 a.m. and continuing through a dinner to be served at 6:00 p.m., followed by a real fun auction sale beginning at 7:30 p.m. Some valuable and lovely items will be auctioned off, including depression glass, a new electric grill, original paintings and many more items.

The women of St. Anne's have been working all year to make this the best bazaar ever. Hand made pillows, aprons, cutting boards, party napkins, plus house plants, Brunswick Stew, baked goods, jellies, pickles, and scores of other good things will be on display for your shopping pleasure.

This is an annual event which we all are looking forward to being the greatest one held so far.

Birth announced

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Motley, Sr. are proud to announce the birth of a son, Michael Allen, born on October 24. He weighed ten pounds and was 22¼ inches long. The Motleys are the parents of another son, Rocky.

Maternal grandmother is Mrs. D. S. Arrington of Lynchburg. Paternal grandmother is Mrs. Frances Motley of Altavista.

Paternal grandfather is Calvin Motley of Lynchburg and paternal great-grandmother is Mrs. Homie Dalton of Appomattox.

Concord seniors plan bazaar

The Concord Senior Citizens will hold their annual bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 8 at the Sherwill Community Center located on Rt. 646.

There will be crafts of all kinds, Christmas decorations and gifts, baked goods of all kinds, household items, and other things for sale. Food and drinks will be available.

Gospel sing is planned

The First Baptist Church will hold its Family and Friends Day Sunday (Nov. 9).

The Daniels Family of Red House and the Beautiful Zion Choir will be musical guests at the 2:30 p.m. service.

All friends and families are invited to attend this event.

Garden club slates bake sale

The Appomattox Garden Club will hold a bake sale on Saturday, Nov. 8 at the Triangle Plaza Shopping Center from 10 a.m. until 12 noon.

Homemade pies, cakes, and breads will be available.

All members are urged to bring baked goods early.

First Baptist plans family day

A gospel singing session will be held Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. at the Church of God of Prophesy in Appomattox.

The singing session will feature the Gospelettes, Ted Forisenburg and his group and others from the church.

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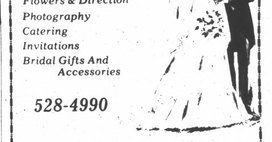

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